



# Elk Call

Volume 63, No 4

TELEPHONE 815-744-3355

July 2024

The Joliet Elks Lodge #296 Newsletter is a monthly newsletter distributed electronically and in limited print to its membership, district lodges, and state association officers. This publication brings invaluable articles of interest to and for our lodge members and families. Throughout the year, features include news and events, information from Grand Lodge and information on social gatherings.

## A WORD FROM YOUR EXALTED RULER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, whatever America means to you is symbolized by the stars and stripes, and we should feel a sense of pride and gratitude every time we salute Old Glory.

Please remember all those who have allowed us to celebrate our Independence Day, and keep in your thoughts and prayers all those who continue to perform in the preservation of our great nation. We should keep in mind one of the charges made to each of us as Elks - strive diligently that the name of Elk as borne by us may be worthy of an American citizen - one who loves their fellow man. Let's try and make that our motto for the coming month as a tribute to our Veterans.

I am looking forward to Austin, Texas - The Grand Lodge Convention. As always, we are guaranteed a great time,. It truly is an extraordinary experience and I hope to further my knowledge and awareness of the world of Elkdome, as well as bring some new ideas to try at our Lodge. Just a reminder, any member is welcome to attend the conventions.

Our Family Picnic Committee Chair is putting together a fantastic affair to be enjoyed by the whole family and friends, but she needs help. Leading Knight Karen Johnson, PER, is hosting a Picnic Committee Meeting on July 16th, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m. Please try to

lend a hand.

Make sure to save the date September 28, 2024 for our Family Picnic, Party starts at 1:00 p.m. There will be a sign up sheet in the bar so we can get an idea how many people will be attending and also for what side dishes you would like to bring.

Drink specials for July - Bloody Maria, made with tomato juice, tequila, Bloody Mary spices, olive and lemon and limes slices. Screwdriver, made with vodka and orange juice. Drinks are \$3.50.

Finally, the House Committee is working on a Lodge survey to be forwarded to our members soon. We really need your input on the workings of our Lodge and types of activities that would interest you. Look for your survey soon, we're trying to have it prepared for distribution by the beginning of August.

Have a safe and spectacular 4th of July! God Bless America!

Fraternally Yours,

*Debra Bruno-Nevin, PER*



**PICNIC MEETING FOR ALL WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP. MEET AT THE LODGE JULY 16th AT 6:30 P.M.**



**FRIDAY JULY 12TH 7:00 PM**

Please arrive by 6:30 to get your table and something to drink. We have a good selection of both in the Lounge. Come with your own team or feel free to join one of the teams that are already here. All members and their guests are welcome.

## LAPSATION

At this time we still have quite a few members who are delinquent in their dues payment. We miss "you guys 'n gals," and would really like to have you join us for the fun and purposeful journey this year has in store for us. Send in your dues today and help in supporting YOUR LODGE. Members please reach out to any member that you know is delinquent and encourage them to renew their membership and restore their active participation in the Lodge functions. Please remember this is your Lodge and it thrives on participation.

## LODGE MEETING NIGHT JACKPOT:

Jackpot drawings occur on Lodge meeting nights. Winning holder of 50/50 ticket eligible to draw. Winner must be present at the meeting. Last month Penny Burns wasn't even close to winning over \$300!!

## 2024-2025 LODGE #296 OFFICERS

Exalted Ruler.....Debra Bruno-Nevin PER  
 Est. Leading Knight ..... Karen Johnson PER  
 Est. Loyal Knight ..... Dan Ward  
 Est. Lecturing Knight..... Ricky Gray  
 Secretary..... Mark Bump PER, PDDGER  
 Treasurer ..... Barb Schoppe  
 Tiler.....Annie Won  
 Esquire .....  
 Chaplain ..... Lori Bump  
 Inner Guard.....Wyenot Hugh

Trustee (2025).....Chris Marry  
 Trustee (2026).....Larry Burns PER, PDDGER  
 Trustee (2027).....Penny Burns PER, PDDGER  
 Trustee (2028)..... Andy Lopez  
 Trustee (2029)..... Clint Flint PER  
 Board of Directors Chair... Penny Burns, PER, PDDGER  
 P.E.R. President.....Debra Bruno-Nevin PER  
 Editor.....Jeff Sterr PER PDDGER  
 Innie-Outie Counter.....Lori Bump  
 Very Temporary Assistant Editor.....Dee Zaster

### Lodge Information

Office Hours: M-F 9am-12pm

**Lounge Hours: Mon, Wed. 4pm to 10pm**

**Tuesday , Thursday & Sunday -CLOSED**

**Friday & Saturday 4-11**

Phone # : 815-744-3355

Address: 250 SE Frontage Rd., Joliet, IL 60431

Email: elks296@att.net

Website: <http://www.jolietelks.com>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Joliet-ElksLodge-296](http://www.facebook.com/Joliet-ElksLodge-296)

Bob Eckhoff- District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler

Elks Website: [www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org)

Illinois Elks Association: <http://www.illinoiselks.org>

Illinois Elks Children's Care : [www.illinoiselksecc.org](http://www.illinoiselksecc.org)

For lodge updates as it relates to lodge functions, check out the lodge website and/or Facebook page.

### MEMBERSHIP-MONTHLY REPORT

#### JOLIET ELKS LODGE #296

Number of Members on April 1, 2024—190

Number of Members on April 30, 2024—192

Delinquent as of April 30,2023—26

**Mark Bump, PER, PDDGER, Lodge Secretary**



#### Elks Award Nearly \$4 Million in College Scholarships

In April, the Elks National Foundation awarded more than \$3.9 million to high school seniors entering their freshman year of college, welcoming 850 students to the Elks Family. More than just financial aid, an Elks scholarship is an invitation to a network of service-minded peers and a promise that an Elks Lodge is always there with open arms. Out of more than 22,000 applicants for the Elks National Foundation's Most Valuable Student scholarship, the Top 20 scholars received \$30,000 scholarships and an invitation to Chicago for the Most Valuable Student Leadership Weekend. Four-hundred-and-eighty runners-up received \$4,000 scholarships.

*What happens if you get scared  
half to death twice?*

**TWO FISH ARE IN A TANK.**

**ONE SAYS, 'HOW DO YOU DRIVE THIS THING?'**



### Who Are the Elks?

Elks Lodges bring so much more to their communities than just a building, golf course or pool. They are places where neighbors come together, families share meals, and children grow up.



[Learn more about the Elks](#) ← (click there)



ARE YOU MOVING...even if it is just temporary? Please don't forget to include the lodge on your list of people to notify, as we use non-profit bulk mail rates. If you move and do not notify us, we are charged a fee for returned mail. Please help us save money and just give the lodge a call or send us an email to let us know your new address.

### UP TO DATE WITH CCC?

Congratulations to those of you who purchased calendars from the Children's Care Corp. and have won prize money. For those of you who have not purchased a calendar yet you still can at a reduced cost of \$10. Remember, once purchased, not only are you eligible for the daily drawings, but you are qualified for the \$5,000 drawing on Veterans Day and the \$1,000 drawings on Flag Day (June 14) and the Fourth of July. If interested in purchasing a calendar stop by the Lodge office.

### WELCOME !

Robert Eisenhower initiated at the May 28th lodge meeting.

### QUEEN OF HEARTS:

- 5-31-24: Nancy Fitzgerald, #21 (2 of clubs)
- 6-7-24: Joe Petroski, #35 ( 3 of clubs)
- 6-14-24 Joe Petroski #31, (Queen of spades)
- 6-21-24 Chris Marry, #54 (9 of spades)



Editor reserves the right to edit the submissions for Grammar, Punctuation, and Content as space allows.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## July Birthdays

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 4 Richard Snow     | 18 Dan Eaton      |
| 5 Lucianna Herrera | Don Klepec        |
| 8 Robert Ruchala   | James Lopez       |
| 11 Diego Guzman    | 20 Susan Hawkins  |
| 14 Steve Yates     | 26 James Hogan    |
| 15 Louis Lakota    | 29 Ralph Carrillo |
| 16 Bob Bambic      | 30 Dan Ward       |



Support our Foundation by donating online. You could give through the Lodge, but the *only* difference when you donate online is how quickly your gift helps others.

Donate to the Elks National Foundation online at [enf.elks.org/MyLodge](http://enf.elks.org/MyLodge)



**Lodge Receives Offer for Property. Negotiations continue See page 4 for details Vote likely 8-27**

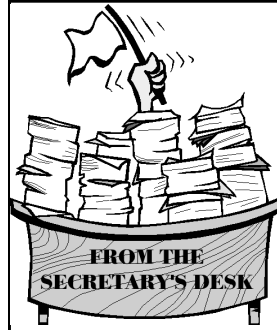
## In Memoriam

*The faults of our members we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of Love and Memory.*



Duane A. Krieger  
Born October 22, 1936  
Initiated January 23, 1990  
Died May 289, 2024

*The clock of his days has stopped, upon its dial the motionless with us the shadows mark eleven, with us the Golden Hour of Recollection.*



Membership into any lodge is a commitment to help maintain its functions and stability.

I ask all Elks of Lodge No. 296 to ask yourself "What can I give to ensure the stability of this Lodge?"

Maybe attending functions and meetings more often, or becoming an officer, or just donating time to be with its members in the club. The lodge supports all members and values their membership. The dream of a better lodge becomes reality when shaped by enough willing hearts and hands. We, as members are all equal in standing, we need to share the responsibility of our lodge duties to ensure the stability and maintain its future in the community.

Remember you are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.

Have a safe and wonderful 4th of July!!

Sincerely and Fraternaly submitted,

Mark Bump, PDDGER Lodge Secretary

2023-2024

ILLINOIS ELKS CHILDREN'S CARE CORPORATION  
JOLIET # 296 CONTRIBUTIONS

Our Lodge Donated*:	\$3,886.00
Avg Statewide Donations:	\$4,529.82
Rank Statewide:	22/64
Rank in District:	2/8
Our Lodge per capita Donation:	\$20.23
Avg State per capita:	\$13.07

\*consists of all special contributions from Lodge members, Memorials, Annual Appeal-Honorary Donor (HODO) pin sales, State-wide drawing, and Coin Box participation.

### STILL SEARCHING TO FILL TREASURER POSITION

Our current Treasurer extraordinaire has announced her upcoming retirement. Barb's duties would include overseeing all financial transactions and fundraising efforts. Their primary duties include budget planning, financial reporting, record-keeping, and managing incoming and outgoing funds. The new treasurer would work closely with our Lodge Secretary, ER, and Chair of the Board of Directors. For more information, please contact Treas. Barb Schoppe, Secty. Mark Bump, or ER Debra Bruno-Nevin.



**Wii Bowling Night**  
**See you on July 24th at 7pm**  
**No experience necessary. It's so simple, Chris Marry can even do it!**  
**Come join the fun!!**

## Offer on Lodge Property

Joliet Elks Lodge #296 (the “Seller”) proposes to execute an agreement to sell its building and land located at 250 SE Frontage Road, Joliet, IL 60431, to **HOLLADAY PROPERTY SERVICES MIDWEST, INC.**, (the “Purchaser”) at 3454 Douglas Road, South Bend, IN, 44635. Negotiations will be ongoing and a purchase agreement will be delivered to the members by mid-July. The terms of the sale will be put forth in a resolution to the floor of the Lodge for a vote by all of the members in good standing. Joliet Elks Lodge #296 would seek to retain the income from the cell towers and the billboards by means of a permanent easement.

Joliet Elks Lodge #296 will retain the proceeds to pay regular expenses while seeking a **temporary** lease location prior to locating a permanent facility.

**Any sale agreement by Joliet Lodge #296 is contingent upon final approval and authorization by the Board of Grand Trustees of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.**

Watch the August issue of the *EC* for all details.

## Let's talk value – not benefits – of membership

By RICK GATHEN, Membership and Public Relations Manager

Ask any well-informed Members what value they place on their Elks membership and I'll bet they will reply with some version of these:

We accomplish charitable objectives and fund projects that improve the quality of life in our local Elks communities, and in turn the Elks community as a whole. We pledge never to forget our Veterans. Our programs help special needs children, and our nation's youth with scholarships and drug prevention programs. We offer countless opportunities for social activities and new friendships. We are the premier charitable and patriotic organization in the United States. With nearly, 800,000 Members working towards this greater goal, no wonder why the Elks are referred to as the Best People On Earth.

Less informed Members may only see the benefits of Elks membership as affordable food and beverages. They are less likely to remain Members.

To this end, we ask every Exalted Ruler and Lodge Secretary to communicate that every Member contributes in some way just by paying his or her dues. Let them know even if you can't be as active as you would like to be, you are still important to our team.

As suggestions, look at your Elks membership as a means for a better future for our youth, your community, our veterans and the nation we all love.

Proudly communicate the value of Elks membership. Let it be known the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks would not be the organization it is today without your membership. There is a tangible and emotional benefit we all receive in return for the dues we pay.

ILLINOIS ELKS ASSOCIATION  
**GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
**2024**

SCAN ME WITH YOUR MOBILE PHONE CAMERA

Hosted by: Peoria Elks #20 at Madison G.C.

July 26, 2024 FRIDAY GREEN FEES, CART, BOX LUNCH, SWAGBAG & PRIZES \$80 per day - see entry form for details July 27, 2024 SATURDAY

ENTRY FORMS & TOURNAMENT INFO: ELKS.ORG/20, FACEBOOK.COM/PEORIA#20 OR SCAN THE ABOVE QR CODE FOR ADDITIONAL INFO: CONTACT TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN, SHAWN HEROLD, AT 309-303-8073 OR SHAWNHEROLD1@YAHOO.COM

## Improve Your Vocabulary

The Washington Post recently published a contest for readers in which they were asked to supply alternative meanings for various words. The following were some of the winning entries:

- Abdicate (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
- Carcinoma (n.), a valley in California, notable for its heavy smog.
- Esplanade (v.), to attempt an explanation while drunk.
- Flabbergasted (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.
- Negligent (adj.), describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightie.
- Lymph (v.), to walk with a lisp.
- Coffee (n.), a person who is coughed upon.
- Balderdash (n.), a rapidly receding hairline.
- Testicle (n.), a humorous question on an exam.
- Rectitude (n.), the formal, dignified demeanor assumed by a proctologist immediately before he examines you.
- Circumvent (n.), the opening in the front of boxer shorts.

Did Noah keep his bees in archives?



[Elks: Why We Join](#)

Since 1868, millions and millions of Americans have joined the Elks. Find out why! [Click Here!](#)



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[join.elks.org](http://join.elks.org)



As we begin another Elk year, we are looking for additional businesses to advertise in our monthly newsletter, the *Elk Call*. The price is only \$75 per year, and we can use your business card for your ad or help you design something. Call the office, if interested.

THANK YOU, AND PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS.

**OLD TIMERS REPORT**  
**MEMBERS WITH 40 YEARS OF ELKDOM:**

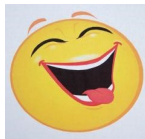
Leonard Hoffman & Donald Schultz.

**SAVE THE DATE!!**  
**SEPTEMBER 28TH**  
**LODGE FAMILY PICNIC**



**FOOD AND FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

Special appearance by the comedy team of Schoppe & Bump



Music

Games

Friends

Looking for volunteers—next meeting July 16th 6:30pm

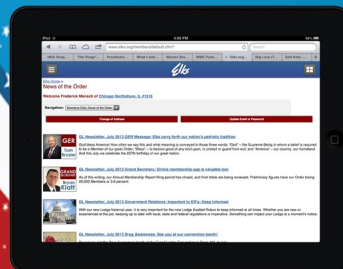


**Net new Members with online invites**  
**From the Desk of Grand Secretary Bryan Klatt**

Have you promoted the online Membership application for signing up new Members? Using the Elks website, a current paid-up Member of the Order can forward a membership invitation to family and friends. Invitees can complete and submit the application online.

Lodge Secretaries will be notified of these applications via the “Alerts” screen of CLMS2, then can process the electronic version the same as a paper application. All data provided by the applicant will be imported into the Lodge’s CLMS2 database with the simple click of a button. What better way to gain a Member than by using technology to its fullest?

Now on all mobile platforms!



**Elks**  
**ONLINE**

Get your password at  
[www.elks.org/register](http://www.elks.org/register)



Members John Pearson & Frank Mlyniec with their new friend and new bride, Neomi Adams

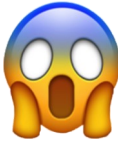


We were just as surprised as June Wii Bowling Champion Frank Mlyniec!

**FYI:**

1) Ants never sleep. Also they don't have lungs. Oxygen enters through tiny holes all over their body and carbon dioxide leaves through the same holes.

2) The record for the most babies born to one woman is 69. Mrs. Vassilyeva from Russia gave birth to 16 pairs of twins, seven sets of triplets and four sets of quadruplets.



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**G/L PR and Membership Marketing Committee**

*Fresh slogans, videos, tools on tap*

By RICK GATHEN *Membership Marketing Manager*

Get ready for an exhilarating National Convention as we embark on exciting new initiatives curated by the Grand Lodge Public Relations and Membership Marketing Committee! With a lineup of innovative programs, captivating videos, and promising opportunities set to launch, this convention promises to be a gamechanger for our organization.





Here's a sneak peek into what's in store:

1. Let's Soar with Four: Dive into our new Grand Lodge Membership growth slogan and artwork, igniting a spirit of unity and progress.
2. Elkdom's Heart for America: Discover the power of our new GER slogan, coupled with heartwarming artwork that embodies our commitment to Elkdom and our nation.
3. Top proposer reports and social media strategy: Explore our latest tools for boosting membership, including innovative social media tactics and recognition programs designed to celebrate our top recruiters.
4. Pre-Orientation video and letter: Unveil our compelling resources crafted to welcome and engage new Members right from the start, setting the stage for active participation and involvement.
5. Simplified introduction GER e-greeting message: Delve into our strategic approach for reaching out to potential Members with a clear and compelling message, enticing them to join our thriving community.
6. Grand Lodge branding guide: Gain insights into our comprehensive branding guide, ensuring consistency and coherence in our messaging across all platforms.
7. Social shareables best practices: Learn how to leverage our engaging social shareables effectively, maximizing our reach and impact in the digital sphere.






By delving into these key areas together, we aim to amplify the effectiveness of our collective efforts, driving significant growth and engagement for our Lodges.

Together, let's soar to new heights and make a lasting impact on Elkdom

## JOLIET ELKS CALENDAR FOR July 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Grand Lodge Convention	2	3		5 <b>No Dinner</b> Queen of Hearts 7:30	6
7	8 Euchre 6:30 pm	9	10 Euchre 6:30 pm	11	12 <b>TRIVIA Night</b> Dinner 5-8 Queen of Hearts 7:30	13
14	15 Euchre 6:30 pm	16 House Committee & Brd of Directors 7: pm	17 Euchre 6:30 pm	18	19 Dinner 5-8 Queen of Hearts 7:30	20 Bid Euchre 7pm Steak Sandwich Dinner 5-8
21	22 Euchre 6:30 pm	23  Lodge Meeting 7 pm	24 Euchre 6:30 pm	25	26 Dinner 5-8 Queen of Hearts 7:30	27  Wii Bowling 7pm
28	29 Euchre 6:30 pm	30	31 Euchre 6:30 pm		You can lead a horse to water, but a pencil must be lead.	

## JOLIET ELKS CALENDAR FOR August 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 For sale: An antique desk suitable for lady with thick legs and large drawers. Call Mark.				1	2 Dinner 5-8 Queen of Hearts 7:30	3 Have a beer with Lori Day 
4	5 Euchre 6:30 pm	6	7 Euchre 6:30 pm	8	9 <b>TRIVIA Night</b> Dinner 5-8 Queen of Hearts 7:30	10
11	12 Euchre 6:30 pm	13	14 Euchre 6:30 pm	15	16 Dinner 5-8 Queen of Hearts 7:30	17 Bid Euchre 7pm Steak Sandwich Dinner 5-8
18	19 Euchre 6:30 pm	20 House Committee & Brd of Directors 7 pm	21 Euchre 6:30 pm	22	23 Dinner 5-8 Queen of Hearts 7:30	24  Wii Bowling 7pm
25	26 Euchre 6:30 pm	27  Lodge Meeting 7pm	28 Euchre 6:30 pm	29	30 Dinner 5-8 Queen of Hearts 7:30	31 



**A VERY  
IMPORTANT ELK**

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[www.elks.org](http://www.elks.org)

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**Dated Material  
DO NOT DELAY**



Give thanks. Give life.

**IT S YOUR LODGE.  
BE INVOLVED IN IT!**

POSTMASTER: This Publication is of vital interest



***I HATE SEX IN THE MOVIES.  
TRIED IT ONCE. THE SEAT FOLDED UP,  
THE DRINK SPILLED, AND THAT ICE, WELL,  
IT REALLY CHILLED THE MOOD.***

**IT S YOUR LODGE.  
BE INVOLVED IN IT!**

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